

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

COFFIN et al.

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Group:

National Phase of: PCT/GB99/02547

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Examiner:

For: CELL LINES FOR THE PROPAGATION OF MUTATED  
HERPES VIRUSES

\* \* \* \* \*

February 2, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and in order to place the above identified application in better condition for examination, please amend the claims as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS (AS ON AMENDED SHEETS ATTACHED TO IPER)**

Amend the claims as follows.

Cancel claim 13, without prejudice.

5. (Amended) A process according to claim 1 wherein the control sequence comprises a constitutively active promoter or an inducible promoter.

6. (Amended) A process according to claim 1 wherein the mutant herpes virus is a herpes simplex virus (HSV).

8. (Amended) A process according to claim 1 wherein the mutant herpes virus comprises additional mutations which functionally inactivate one or more additional endogenous genes of said virus and the cell line comprises additional nucleic acid